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Viet Cong  
Infrastructure

TOOK PICTURE

Within recent months increased emphasis has been placed on the war against the Viet Cong infrastructure. The briefing this morning will discuss some new developments in this war.

The Viet Cong Infrastructure is the political and administrative organization through which the Viet Cong seek to control the South Vietnamese people. It embodies the People's Revolutionary Party Control Structure, including COSVN, and the National Liberation Front. Both of these organizations extend down from national to hamlet level. Control is actually accomplished through committees established at each level. This slide shows the organization of a typical village committee.

SLIDE 1 ON

Current MACV estimates place the strength of the infrastructure at 40,000. However, these figures do not include personnel at the hamlet level. Consequently it is estimated that the total strength is at least double MACV's figure.

The problem is first to identify the members of the infrastructure (FILE 1) and then to eliminate them (FILE 2).

PAUSE

SLIDE 1 OFF

Actions against infrastructure personnel are traditionally a police problem. Vietnamese National Police at all levels have been gathering information on the infrastructure for years.

This morning will discuss some new developments in this area.  
At the Viet Cong level, it is to the political and administrative organization through which the Viet Cong seek to control the South Vietnamese people. It includes the People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, the Military Council, and the National Liberation Front. Both of these organizations extend down from national to hamlet level. Control is actually accomplished through committees established at each level. This slide shows the organization of a typical village committee.

#### SOURCE 1: CM

Current MACV estimates place the strength of the infrastructure at 40,000. However, these figures do not include personnel at the hamlet level. It is difficult to estimate that the total strength is at least double MACV's figure.

The problem is that the CMs are members of the infrastructure (Figure 2) and the CMs dominate their areas.

PAUSE

#### SOURCE 2: CM

Actions against infrastructure personnel are traditionally a police problem. Vietnamese National Police at all levels have been gathering information on the infrastructure for years. In addition, the Central Army is responsible for making sure that all Viet Cong personnel in the infrastructure are captured. These include the Special Forces, the Civilian Militia, the People's Militia, the People's Self-Defense Forces, and the People's Patriotic Forces. It is a part of the civil defense of these forces that the people are responsible for the capture of Viet Cong personnel. The following slide shows the organization of a typical

However, much of it is buried in files, and little effort has been directed toward properly exploiting this information.

In order to coordinate and give new impetus to US and RVN operations directed toward elimination of the infrastructure, MACV Directive 351-81 was published on 9 July. This directive established a joint civil/military management structure entitled Intelligence Coordination and Exploitation for attack on VC Infrastructure, short title ICEX.

#### SLIDE 2 ON

ICEX establishes at all levels, from Saigon to district, an agency specifically charged with coordinating, recommending and supervising activities related to the identification and destruction of the infrastructure. Initial emphasis is on the US side of the effort, with the hope that it will stimulate a similar Vietnamese effort.

#### (UNCOVER FDIP 2)

At the Saigon level, an ICEX Committee has been established under the chairmanship of Mr. Konner, with membership including the Special Assistant to the Ambassador, the MACV J-2 and J-3, and the Chief of the RD Cadre Division of COMUSMACV. This committee will be supported by a small staff of approximately 20 personnel.

#### (UNCOVER FDIP 2)

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At the Corps or Field Force level, the Corps Senior Advisor will designate the CIA Regional Officer in Charge (ROIC) as his principle staff officer for ICEX matters. The ROIC will chair a committee which will include the Corps C-3, the C-3 Advisor, the G-3 Advisor, and the head of any other US elements which are principally concerned with the infrastructure. The work of this committee will be supervised by the Corps Senior Advisor's Deputy for COMUSMACV.

(UNCOVER FILE 3)

In each province, the Province Senior Advisor will be provided a Province ICEX Advisor by CIA or Central Registry detachment. He will act as the principle staff officer to the Province Senior Advisor for ICEX matters. At this level no ICEX committee is established. However, the ICEX Advisor will concentrate on stimulating the functioning of the Vietnamese Province Intelligence Coordinating Committee to focus its activities on the infrastructure.

(UNCOVER FILE 4)

In selected Districts, a District Operations Intelligence Coordinating Center will be established. This is a combined US/GVN agency which will permit rapid evaluation and dissemination of infrastructure intelligence and quick reaction to eliminate the local infrastructure. A prototype of this organization has been functioning in Dien Ben District of Quang Nam Province with some notable successes. The lessons learned here will be adapted to the local situation when other DOICCO's are established.

Many of the agencies which provide information on the infrastructure report to the Province Headquarters. These include the Province Reconnaissance Unit, the Province Interrogation Center, and the Static Census Grievance Teams. Consequently the Province currently has the best intelligence on the infrastructure. However, its ability to react to this intelligence is not as complete or rapid as desired. The

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(SLIDE 2 OFF)

Although the ICEX organization itself is new, the increased emphasis placed on the war against the infrastructure within recent months has already begun to pay some dividends.

Currently 9,000 VC personalities have been identified, and 21,000 additional names are being inserted in the base data. Recently the ROIC in Sa Dec Province reported that he had almost completely identified the infrastructure in his province. Also, between January and May of this year, 150 VC cadre were captured within the city of Saigon. As the ICER organization develops, it should be possible to take an ever increasing "rifle shot" approach rather than a shotgun approach to the job of eliminating the important political leaders and activists in the VC infrastructure.

Gentlemen, this completes my briefing for this morning. Are there any questions?

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